# Families and Individuals Prepared: Things to Consider

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## Influenza Pandemic

- No vaccine
- Limited antivirals
- Limited assistance

BUT
There is an unsung, powerful weapon....



What can you do to protect yourself and your family at home and in the workplace?

## Three Things to Consider

Be Prepared

Stay Healthy

Get Informed

# Be Prepared

# All Hazards Preparation

- Same as preparing for natural disaster or event
- You might be home sick or caring for those ill
- Public transportation may be unavailable
- Utilities may be disrupted
- Schools may be closed
- Stores may be out of supplies

## **Essentials At Home**

- Nonperishable foods
- Prescription drugs for chronic conditions

Baby food/formula

Hygiene supplies

Drinking water

Flashlight and batteries

Over-the-counter drugs and health supplies

Pet food

### **Outside the Home**

Neighbors who cannot leave home

People with special needs

 Alternate activities if schools and child care centers are closed

### **Essentials At Work**

- Hand washing and cough etiquette
- Stay home if you are sick
- Communication between managers and employees essential
  - Work from home policies
  - Sick leave policies may change when a pandemic occurs
  - Insurance issues
- Continuity of operations
  - Determine essential services/functions
  - Be prepared to work different hours or perform different duties

# Stay Healthy

## It's Common Sense

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze
- Discard used tissues
- Don't use handkerchiefs
- Wash hands after coughing or sneezing
- Stay home if you are sick

# A Healthy Immune System

- Eat a balanced diet
- Drink lots of water
- Exercise regularly
- Get plenty of rest
- Get an annual flu vaccination

# Get Informed

## Talking With Children

Get down on their level

Stress importance

Make it fun

Let them own it

# Say What?

Hand washing

Cough etiquette

 Stay home from school, child care, social events

Model it!

### For More Information

- www.pandemicflu.gov
- CDC Hotline
  - 1.800.CDC.INFO (1.800.232.4636)
  - inquiry@cdc.gov
- Local and state government
  - www.in.gov/isdh
  - Public health officials